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FOR EUR/RPM

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, GE, NATO
SUBJECT: MONITORING OF WARSAW PACT IMPLEMENTATION:
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

REFS: (A) 76 STATE 84043
(B) 77 BERLIN 8248

1. INTRODUCTION: GDR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
HELSINKI FINAL ACT REMAINS IN GENERAL TERMS CONSTANT
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AND UNIFORM. THERE HAVE BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES IN GDR POLICY IN THIS AREA SINCE THE EMBASSY'S
LAST REPORT (REFTEL B). THE BELGRADE REVIEW
CONFERENCE DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE LED TO A MARKED
IMPROVEMENT OR DETERIORATION IN THE GDR'S
PERFORMANCE.

2. WORKING CONDITIONS FOR U.S. BUSINESSMEN:

A. CONDITIONS FOR EXPANSION OF BUSINESS
CONTACTS, INCLUDING ACCESS TO END USERS OF IMPORTED
CAPITAL GOODS AND TECHNOLOGY.

IN THE PERIOD SINCE THE LAST (NOVEMBER 1977)
REPORT, US BUSINESS HAS CONTINUED TO EXPAND CONTACTS
WITHIN THE UNCHANGED FRAMEWORK OF THE GDR'S CENTRALLY-
PLANNED AND ADMINISTERED FOREIGN TRADE SYSTEM. MEMBERS
OF THE PRIVATE US-GDR TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL
TRAVELED TO LEIPZIG AND BERLIN IN MARCH FOR THE SECOND
JOINT SESSION OF THE US GROUP WITH ITS GDR COUNTERPART.
WE ASSESS THAT MEETING AS HAVING HAD A BENEFICIAL IMPACT
ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF US-GDR TRADE CONTACTS; CONTRACTS
WORTH \$360 MILLION WERE REPORTEDLY SIGNED.

IN RECENT MONTHS THE GDR HAS TAKEN AN
INITIATIVE TO EXPAND BUSINESS CONTACTS THROUGH
EFFORTS TO FIND US BUSINESS PARTNERS FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS,
INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF CAPITAL FACILITIES IN THE GDR.
FIRMS THUS INVITED BY THE GDR USUALLY GAIN PROMPT ACCESS
TO END-USERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, FOREIGN FIRMS IN WHICH
THE GDR HAS NOT EXPRESSED A SPECIFIC INTEREST HAVE
DIFFICULTY IN GAINING ACCESS TO END-USERS, WHO CAN
BE REACHED ONLY THROUGH PATIENT AND PERSISTENT
CULTIVATION OF THE FOREIGN TRADE APPARATUS.
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B. IMPROVED POSSIBILITIES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATION AND OF OFFICES.

THE GDR CONTINUES EFFORTS TO RECRUIT FOREIGN
BUSINESS TO OCCUPY A NEW 24-STORY TRADE CENTER IN EAST
BERLIN, DUE TO BE COMPLETED IN SEPTEMBER 1978, WHICH
WILL PROVIDE SUITABLE FACILITIES FOR A CONSIDERABLE
EXPANSION OF THE FOREIGN BUSINESS PRESENCE IN THE GDR.
WE KNOW OF NO US BUSINESS FIRM WHICH SEEKS TO OPEN AN
OFFICE IN EAST BERLIN WHICH HAS NOT BEEN PERMITTED TO DO
SO.

C. BETTER PROVISION OF HOTEL ACCOMMODATION, MEANS
OF COMMUNICATION, AND SUITABLE BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL
PREMISES.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS IN EAST BERLIN FOR WESTERN
VISITORS ARE AMPLE AND COMFORTABLE. ANOTHER MODERN,
WESTERN-STYLE HOTEL IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN
EAST BERLIN; AND A PLANNED HOTEL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN
LEIPZIG WILL EASE THE PRESSURE FOR SUITABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

AT THE SEMIANNUAL LEIPZIG FAIR. HOUSING, THOUGH EXPENSIVE, IS AVAILABLE IN ADEQUATE QUANTITY AND QUALITY.

D. INCREASE IN AVAILABILITY OF ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION, INCLUDING PERIODIC DIRECTORIES, LISTS OF FOREIGN TRADE ENTITIES AND OFFICIALS, ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS OF FIRMS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH FOREIGN TRADE, PERTINENT STATISTICS, FOREIGN TRADE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, AND ECONOMIC AND TRADE PROJECTIONS.

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AND FOREIGN TRADE ENTITIES ARE COMPREHENSIVE AND WIDELY AVAILABLE, AS ARE FOREIGN TRADE LAWS AND REGULATIONS. FIRMS WITH WHICH THE GDR HAS AN INTEREST IN CONDUCTING BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS ARE ABLE TO OBTAIN COMMERCIAL INFORMATION PERTINENT TO PROJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION. PUBLISHED

STATISTICAL MATERIAL ON PRODUCTION AS A RULE IS AVAILABLE ONLY IN HIGHLY AGGREGATED FORM, AND AT A RELATIVELY LONG INTERVAL FOLLOWING THE REPORTING PERIOD COVERED. DATA ON FOREIGN TRADE REMAINS VERY SKETCHY, 1974 BEING THE LAST YEAR FOR WHICH
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COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY IMPORT AND EXPORT FIGURES WERE PUBLISHED. THERE IS NO INFORMATION PUBLISHED ON THE INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTS OF THE GDR.

E. INCREASE IN VARIETY AND NUMBER OF COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WITH US FIRMS.

THE GDR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO INTEREST SELECTED US COMPANIES, ESPECIALLY LARGE MULTINATIONALS, IN VARIOUS COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING FRAMEWORK COOPERATION AGREEMENTS, LONG-TERM SUPPLY/PURCHASE CONTRACTS, LICENSING AND TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS. A RECENT DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY STEPPED-UP GDR EFFORTS TO FIND US FIRMS INTERESTED IN SUPPLYING CAPITAL PLANT, ESPECIALLY ON THE BASIS OF BUY-BACK OR COMPENSATION TRANSACTIONS. THE GDR'S OBJECTIVES IN TRADE WITH WESTERN, INCLUDING US, FIRMS REMAIN THE ACQUISITION AND FINANCING OF CAPITAL GOODS AND TECHNOLOGY TO PROMOTE DOMESTIC PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH, CULTIVATION OF STABLE SOURCES OF SUPPLY OF RAW MATERIALS, EXPANSION OF OPPORTUNITIES TO MARKET GDR PRODUCTS, AND THE SALE OF CERTAIN GDR TECHNOLOGIES.

3. FAMILY MEETINGS:

A. NUMBER OF VISAS ISSUED FOR VISITS TO FAMILY MEMBERS IN US.

PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT.

B. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY AND DELAY PLACED BY HOST GOVERNMENT ON EXIT PERMITS
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FOR LOCAL NATIONALS TO VISIT RELATIVES IN US, AND ON VISAS FOR AMERICANS TO VISIT RELATIVES IN HOST COUNTRY.

THERE HAS BEEN NO RECOGNIZABLE CHANGE
(IMPROVEMENT) REGARDING PERMISSION TO VISIT
RELATIVES IN THE US. IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT
A PENSIONER (AGE 60 FOR WOMEN, 65 FOR MEN), THE
GDR MAY GRANT PERMISSION TO VISIT FAMILY IN THE US
ONLY IN THE EVENT OF DEATH OR LIFE-THREATENING
ILLNESS OF A CLOSE US RELATIVE, OR, IN INSTANCES OF
MARRIAGE, TWENTY-FIFTH OR FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY,
OF A CLOSE RELATIVE.

ONLY ABOUT 30 OF THE 400 PLUS VISITOR
VISAS ISSUED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD WERE TO SUCH
EMERGENCY VISIT OR SPECIAL-OCCASION APPLICANTS. THE
EMBASSY CONTINUES TO RECORD UNCONSCIONABLE DELAYS
BY GDR AUTHORITIES IN GRANTING TRAVEL PERMISSION
IN EMERGENCY VISIT CASES. FOR EXAMPLE, IN ONE
EMERGENCY VISIT CASE IN WHICH A MOTHER IN THE US
SUFFERED A PARALYTIC STROKE IN NOVEMBER 1974,
EXIT PERMISSION HAS STILL NOT BEEN GRANTED. ANOTHER
VISIT CASE HAS BEEN ACTIVE SINCE DECEMBER 1976.
IN BOTH INSTANCES, THE EMBASSY MADE REPRESENTATIONS
DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW. IN TWO EMERGENCY
CASES WHICH HAVE ARISEN IN THE CURRENT
REPORTING PERIOD, THE EMBASSY MADE REPRESENTATIONS
TO THE MFA AFTER APPLICANTS HAD BEEN REFUSED PERMISSION
TO VISIT SERIOUSLY-ILL RELATIVES IN THE US. ONE
OF THESE APPROACHES WAS SUCCESSFUL - THE APPLICANT
WAS PERMITTED TO LEAVE FOUR DAYS AFTER OUR
APPROACH. IN THE OTHER CASE, THE GDR CITIZEN HAS

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NOT BEEN PERMITTED TO TRAVEL.

VISAS FOR AMERICANS TO VISIT RELATIVES
IN THE GDR CONTINUE TO BE ROUTINELY GRANTED. THERE
HAVE BEEN OCCASIONAL REFUSALS WHEN THE RELATIVE
TO BE VISITED HAS APPLIED FOR A GDR EXIT VISA.
THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE CONTINUES TO BE SLOW,
CUMBERSOME, AND RELATIVELY COSTLY. IF AMERICANS
PLAN TO STAY WITH RELATIVES, THE APPLICATION
MUST BE INITIATED BY THE GDR CITIZEN TO BE VISITED.
IF THE AMERICANS PLAN TO USE HOTELS, RESERVATIONS
MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE AND THE HOTEL VOUCHER
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PRESENTED IN SUPPORT OF THE VISA APPLICATION. A
MINIMUM OF SIX WEEKS IS REQUIRED TO MAKE EITHER
OF THESE ARRANGEMENTS. HOTEL AND VISA FEES MUST
BE PAID IN HARD CURRENCY. SINGLE ENTRY VISAS
ARE APPROXIMATELY \$7.50, MULTIPLE ENTRY \$20.00.

C. BRIEF CHARACTERIZATION OF HOST GOVERNMENT
PERFORMANCE SINCE HELSINKI ON FAMILY VISITS,
CONCERNING BOTH PROVISION OF EXIT PERMITS TO LOCAL
NATIONALS AND VISAS FOR AMERICANS.

GDR PERFORMANCE ON FAMILY VISITS HAS NOT
CHANGED SINCE HELSINKI FROM THE DESCRIPTION GIVEN
ABOVE (3B).

4. FAMILY REUNIFICATION:

A. NUMBER OF LOCAL NATIONALS WHO APPLIED FOR
US IMMIGRANT VISAS (IV'S) TO BE REUNITED WITH THEIR
RELATIVES.

THE EMBASSY HAS 29 ACTIVE FAMILY
REUNIFICATION CASES (COMPRISING 60 PEOPLE). 9 OF
THESE CASES (COMPRISING 22 PEOPLE) ARE NEW APPLICATIONS
MADE WITHIN THE REPORTING PERIOD.

IN TWO CASES, REPORTED AS ACTIVE IN THE
LAST SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT, EXIT PERMISSION WAS GRANTED
BY GDR AUTHORITIES AND IMMIGRANT VISAS WERE
ISSUED BY THE EMBASSY. TWO OTHER APPLICANTS FOR
WHOM APPROVED IMMIGRANT VISA PETITIONS ARE ON FILE,
AND IN WHICH THE PRINCIPALS APPLIED FOR IMMIGRANT
VISAS AT THIS EMBASSY, WERE PERMITTED TO LEAVE THE
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GDR FOR THE FRG RATHER THAN THE US. THESE LATTER
FOUR CASES THUS DO NOT APPEAR IN THE TOTAL OF 29 ABOVE.

B. NUMBER OF US IV'S ISSUED.

PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT.

C. NUMBER OF LOCAL NATIONALS WHO HAVE BEEN
UNSUCCESSFUL IN THEIR APPLICATION TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES
FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION.

IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE THE
NUMBER OF UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS (FOR REASONS
EXPLAINED IN THE CHARACTERIZATION OF PERFORMANCE
SECTION BELOW.)

D. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY
AND DELAY PLACED BY HOST GOVERNMENT ON
LOCAL NATIONALS WHO APPLY FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION.

THERE IS NO CLEAR-CUT METHOD OF
MAKING APPLICATION, AND THE DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY AND
HARASSMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROCESS VARIES FROM
PLACE TO PLACE. ONLY APPLICATIONS BASED ON
"FIRST-GRADE" FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS (SPOUSE, PARENT,
SON/DAUGHTER, SIBLING) TO US CITIZENS ARE ACCEPTED
BY GDR AUTHORITIES. INSISTENCE ON DOCUMENTARY
EVIDENCE OF BEING DEBT FREE AND OF HAVING APPROVAL
OF EMPLOYERS TO LEAVE IS ROUTINE; LOSS OF JOB OR
DEMOTION TO MENIAL POSITIONS ARE COMMON; STRONG
PRESSURE, AND OSTRACISM FROM EMPLOYERS, ASSOCIATES,
SCHOOLMATES OF CHILDREN, AND NEIGHBORS ARE FREQUENT.
IN THOSE CASES RESULTING IN APPROVAL, DELAY IN
GRANTING APPROVAL VARIES FROM THREE MONTHS TO TWO

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YEARS.

E. CHARACTERIZATION OF HOST GOVERNMENT
PERFORMANCE SINCE HELSINKI ON FAMILY REUNIFICATION.

THE GDR HAS PERFORMED FAIRLY WELL ON
FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS ONLY IF PERFORMANCE CHARACTERIZAT-
ION TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THOSE APPLICANTS WHO (1)
MEET GDR DEGREE OF KINSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND
(2) ARE NOT FRIGHTENED INTO ABANDONING OR WITHDRAWING
THEIR APPLICATIONS. FAMILY REUNIFICATION
CASES COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE EMBASSY IN ONE
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OF TWO WAYS: 1) APPLICANT COMES TO THE EMBASSY AND
EXPRESSES A DESIRE TO EMIGRATE TO JOIN AN AMERICAN
CITIZEN RELATIVE; 2) US CITIZEN RELATIVE CONTACTS
EMBASSY WITH REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN PROCESSING
APPLICATION OF GDR CITIZEN.

THE EMBASSY CAN FOLLOW THE PROGRESS OF

APPLICANTS IN THE ABOVE CATEGORIES; WE CAN MAKE REPRESENTATIONS ON THEIR BEHALF TO THE GDR MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS; AND RECORD SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTIONS OF SUCH CASES. WE CANNOT, HOWEVER, ESTIMATE WITH ANY DEGREE OF ACCURACY THE NUMBER OF POTENTIAL EMIGRANTS TO THE US IN THE FAMILY REUNIFICATION CATEGORY AS SPECIFIED IN THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT, WHO, FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, NEVER MAKE APPLICATION TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO EMIGRATE, OR WITHDRAW THE APPLICATION ONCE MADE, OR FAIL TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THE APPLICATION DUE TO FEAR, HARASSMENT AND PRESSURE.

GDR CITIZENS ARE FREQUENTLY TOLD THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO APPLY FOR EMIGRANT STATUS, OR THAT US CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE NO RIGHT TO ADVISE GDR CITIZENS REGARDING EMIGRATION SINCE SUCH CONTACT IS PROHIBITED UNDER GDR LAW, AND REPRESENTS INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE GDR.

F. COST OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMIGRATION DOCUMENTATION.

PASSPORT: 10 MARKS; EXIT VISA: 5 MARKS.
NO OTHER CHARGES KNOWN TO EMBASSY.

5. BINATIONAL MARRIAGES:
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A. NUMBER OF BINATIONAL MARRIAGES RECORDED AT EMBASSY.

IN THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 1, 1977 - APRIL 1, 1978,
1 BINATIONAL MARRIAGE CASE WAS SUCCESSFULLY RESOLVED
AND TWO NEW CASES OPENED.

B. NUMBER OF EXIT PERMITS/ENTRY VISAS ISSUED TO SPOUSES FOR PURPOSE OF BINATIONAL MARRIAGE.

ONE EXIT PERMIT.

C. NUMBER OF EXIT PERMITS/ENTRY VISAS TO SPOUSES DELAYED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR MORE THAN SIX MONTHS.

THREE (3) EXIT PERMITS.

D. HOST GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE SINCE HELSINKI ON BINATIONAL MARRIAGE.

GDR PERFORMANCE IN BINATIONAL MARRIAGE

CASES IS QUITE GOOD. IT TOOK ABOUT ONE YEAR AFTER HELSINKI FOR THE GDR AUTHORITIES TO ACCEPT THE IDEA OF EMIGRATION IN ORDER TO MARRY (RATHER THAN MARRIAGE IN THE GDR WITH SUBSEQUENT EMIGRATION APPLICATION). THERE APPEARS TO BE LESS HARASSMENT THAN IN FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES, AND FAIRLY ROUTINE PROCESSING OF CASES TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION ONCE THE FIANCE(E) IS PERMITTED TO MAKE ACTUAL APPLICATION. CONTRIBUTING TO THE APPEARANCE OF A FAIRLY GOOD RECORD IN BINATIONAL MARRIAGE CASES IS THEIR MINISCULE NUMBER. MINIMUM

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PROCESSING TIME BY GDR AUTHORITIES OF BINATIONAL MARRIAGE CASES IS SIX MONTHS, WITH DELAYS OF A YEAR OR MORE QUITE COMMON.

6. TRAVEL AND TOURISM:

A. NUMBER OF (1) TOTAL US NON-IMMIGRANT

VISAS (NIV'S) AND (2) TOURIST VISAS
ISSUED.

PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

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B. NUMBER OF (1) NIV'S AND (2) TOURIST
VISAS GRANTED BY HOST GOVERNMENT TO AMERICANS.

NO CURRENT FIGURES AVAILABLE. GDR PUBLISHED
STATISTICS ONLY PROVIDE A GROSS FIGURE FOR "VISITORS
FROM NON-SOCIALIST STATES."

C. AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME FOR ISSUANCE OF
US NIV'S; COST OF VISAS.

US NIV'S ARE ISSUED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF
RECEIPT ON NON-WAIVER CASES; TEN DAYS TO TWO WEEKS
FOR WAIVER CASES. VISA COSTS: B, F, H AND I
VISAS \$8.50; C-1 VISA \$2.00; ALL OTHER NIV'S, NO FEE.

D. AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME FOR ISSUANCE OF
HOST GOVERNMENT NIV'S; COST OF VISAS.

"DAY VISITS" FROM WEST BERLIN TO EAST
BERLIN; A FEW MINUTES. VISAS FOR LONGER STAYS IN
EAST BERLIN OR IN THE GDR: SEVERAL WEEKS DEPENDING
ON CONFIRMATION OF HOTEL RESERVATIONS OR PRIVATE
ACCOMMODATION. COSTS: "DAY VISIT" 5 MARKS PLUS
MANDATORY EXCHANGE OF HARD CURRENCY EQUIVALENT
OF 6.50 MARKS. IF VISITORS COME BY CAR, THERE IS
ALSO A 10 MARK FEE FOR ROAD USE AND ADDITIONAL CHARGES
BASED ON DISTANCE DRIVEN AT APPROXIMATELY 5 MARKS
PER 100 KM. ONE-ENTRY VISA TO THE GDR IS 15 MARKS,
WITH A MANDATORY EXCHANGE OF HARD CURRENCY
EQUIVALENT OF 13 MARKS PER DAY OF STAY. MULTIPLE-ENTRY
VISA: 40 MARKS PLUS A MANDATORY EXCHANGE OF HARD
CURRENCY EQUIVALENT OF 13 MARKS PER DAY OF STAY.

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E. AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED BY LOCAL
NATIONALS FOR COMPLETING ALL HOST GOVERNMENT EXIT
FORMALITIES.

8 WEEKS TO 3 MONTHS.

F. HOST GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE SINCE HELSINKI
ON VISA AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICE RELATED TO
TRAVEL AND TOURISM.

SEE 3(B) ABOVE.

7. INFORMATION:

A. CURRENT NUMBER OF US NEWSPAPERS AND
MAGAZINES IN HOST COUNTRY, SHOWING NUMBER OF TITLES;
NUMBER OF COPIES; PERCENTAGE OF NUMBER OF
COPIES ACCOUNTED FOR BY AMERICAN COMMUNIST PUBLICATIONS.

THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD-TRIBUNE IS
THE ONLY US NEWSPAPER AVAILABLE, AND THAT IN
EXTREMELY LIMITED NUMBERS, 5 OF SO DAILY, AT ONE
EAST BERLIN HOTEL. IT IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN LIMITED
QUANTITIES DURING THE LEIPZIG FAIR AT CERTAIN HOTELS.
NO MAGAZINES ARE SOLD.

B. AVAILABILITY OF AMERICAN PUBLICATIONS
TO LOCAL NATIONALS AT NEWSSTANDS, LIBRARIES, BY
SUBSCRIPTION.

THE HOTEL METROPOLE, A HARD-CURRENCY
ESTABLISHMENT, CONTINUES TO SELL THE INTERNATIONAL
HERALD-TRIBUNE, TO HOTEL GUESTS FOR WESTERN

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CURRENCY. THE ONLY OTHER OPPORTUNITY TO BUY
THE TRIBUNE IS DURING THE LEIPZIG TRADE FAIR.
OTHERWISE WESTERN NEWSPAPERS, OUTSIDE OF COMMUNIST
PARTY ORGANS, ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.
WESTERN MAGAZINES ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

C. HOST GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE SINCE
HELSINKI ON PRINTED INFORMATION.

THE AVAILABILITY OF AMERICAN AND WESTERN
PUBLICATIONS TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC CONTINUES TO
BE SEVERELY RESTRICTED BOTH IN BERLIN AND IN THE
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GDR.

THERE HAS BEEN NO NOTICEABLE INCREASE IN
PLACES WHERE WESTERN PUBLICATIONS ARE ON SALE TO
THE PUBLIC. GDR INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS SPECIAL
ACADEMIES AND UNIVERSITIES AND EDITORIAL STAFFS
OF PUBLICATIONS SUBSCRIBE TO AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS AND
MAGAZINES AS SOURCES OF INFORMATION, BUT RETAIN
CONTROL OVER THEM WITHIN THEIR ORGANIZATION. GDR
CITIZENS ARE PROHIBITED FROM SUBSCRIBING DIRECTLY
TO WESTERN PUBLICATIONS BUT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF
AN INSTITUTION, THEY MAY HAVE ACCESS
TO PUBLICATIONS.

THE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO TEST THE GDR
PRESS REGULATION - PROHIBITING THE DIRECT
DISTRIBUTION OF PRINTED MATERIALS - CONTINUE AS THE
LIST OF RECIPIENTS GROWS WITH THE INCLUSION OF
NON-GOVERNMENTAL INDIVIDUALS.

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VO-05 CA-01 PPT-01 BIB-01 /113 W
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R 141419Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7153
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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AMERICAN AUTHORS HAS BEEN TRANSLATED SINCE THE LAST
REPORT, TOTALLING AT LEAST THIRTY-FIVE TITLES AND
SOLD OUT ALMOST ON THE DAY OF PUBLICATION. AMONG THE
AUTHORS, IN SOME CASES WITH MORE THAN ONE VOLUME, ARE:
F. SCOTT FITZGERALD, JAMES BALDWIN, BERNARD MALAMUD,
ARTHUR MILLER, JAMES DICKEY, TRUMAN CAPOTE,
THORNTON WILDER, JAMES THURBER, RAYMOND CHANDLER,
PHILIP ROTH, ERNEST HEMINGWAY, EDWARD ALBEE AND
TENNESSEE WILLIAMS, WHILE THE 19TH CENTURY CONTINUES
TO BE REPRESENTED BY POE, HAWTHORNE, TWAIN AND MELVILLE.

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D. NUMBER OF AMERICAN FEATURE AND NON-FEATURE
FILMS SHOWN CURRENTLY IN HOST COUNTRY COMMERCIALY,
ON TELEVISION, AND BY SPECIAL SHOWINGS.
SINCE RECENT AMERICAN FILMS HAVE COMBINED SOCIAL

COMMENTARY WITH ENTERTAINMENT VALUE, THE GDR FILM BOARD HAS HAD AN EASY TIME OF SELECTING FILMS WHICH SERVE ITS POLITICAL NEEDS. CURRENTLY SHOWING IN THEATRES ARE "ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN," "THE FRONT" AND "NIGHTMOVERS," TOGETHER WITH OLDER ACQUISITIONS SUCH AS "REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONER" AND "PAPILLON." GENERAL SPEAKING, THERE ARE ALWAYS ONE OR TWO AMERICAN FILMS TO BE SEEN THROUGHOUT THE GDR. TV OPERATES OUT OF A DIFFERENT BUDGET AND PURCHASES ITS OWN FILMS, IN THE LAST MONTH HAVING SHOWN "THEY SHOOT HORSES, DON'T THEY?", "CALL OF THE WILD," "LAST TRAIN FROM GUN HILL" AND "THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN ARM."

E. PERCENTAGE OF VOA, RFE, RL AND RIAS BROADCASTS NOW JAMMED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

JAMMING OF RADIO IN THE AMERICAN SECTOR (RIAS) ON MEDIUM WAVE CONTINUES AND HAS INCREASED THROUGH THE USE OF STRONGER JAMMERS - 225 SMALL AND 17 LARGE - EMPLOYED AGAINST FOUR RIAS-ASSIGNED AM FREQUENCIES. ADDITIONALLY, THREE GDR STATIONS INTERFERE WITH PROGRAMS BY BROADCASTING JUST ABOVE OR BELOW RIAS-ASSIGNED FREQUENCIES. VOA, RFE AND RL DO NOT BROADCAST IN GERMAN.

F. BRIEF CHARACTERIZATION OF HOST GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE SINCE HELSINKI ON FILMED AND BROADCAST INFORMATION.

THE PERFORMANCE OF GDR RADIO AND TELEVISION CONTINUES TO BE ESSENTIALLY NEGATIVE AS COMMENTARIES, DOCUMENTARIES, AND

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MENTARIES AND NEWS COVERAGE CONCERNING U.S. POLICY AND NEWS, BOTH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN, PROVIDE AUDIENCES WITH A SHARPLY CRITICAL AND TENDENTIOUS, OFTEN OPENLY DISTORTED, IMAGE. ON THE OTHER HAND, U.S. PARTICIPATION IN THE LEIPZIG FAIR, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE US-GDR TRADE/ECONOMIC COUNCILS MEETING HERE, AND THE FIRST CULTURAL PROGRAM WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MOUNT - THE PAUL STRAND PHOTO EXHIBIT - ALL WERE GIVEN POSITIVE, PROMPT, COVERAGE BY GDR RADIO AND TV.

GDR-TV'S REQUEST FOR CATALOGUES LISTING THE AVAILABILITY OF US FILMS AND TV PRODUCTIONS FOR PURCHASE HAS BEEN FILLED, BUT WITH NO NOTICEABLE CONSEQUENCES. THERE HAS BEEN, HOWEVER, SOME IMPROVEMENT IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE EDITORIAL STAFF WHICH FREQUENTLY ALERTS US TO SPECIAL ITEMS, SUCH AS THE SIGNING IN WASHINGTON OF THE PROTOCOL FOR THE DRESDEN ART EXHIBIT, WHICH WAS SHOWN ON TV. IN FACT, LOWER LEVEL OFFICIALS APPEAR ANXIOUS FOR

CLOSER CONTACT AND MATERIALS. GDR-RADIO IS RECEIVING FROM THE EMBASSY SETS OF RECORDS OF AMERICAN MUSIC WHICH IS BEING BROADCAST ON A SELECTIVE BASIS.

8. WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS:

A. NUMBER OF MULTIPLE ENTRY/EXIT VISAS GRANTED AMERICAN NEWSMEN BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN CONNECTION WITH PERMANENT ACCREDITATION; AND VISAS FOR INDIVIDUAL VISITS TO AMERICAN JOURNALISTS NOT PERMANENTLY ACCREDITED.

MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISAS ARE ACCORDED TO

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VO-05 CA-01 PPT-01 BIB-01 /113 W
-----031181 150853Z /11

R 141419Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7154
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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TWO PERMANENTLY ACCREDITED AMERICAN JOURNALISTS -
AP WHO RESIDES IN COPENHAGEN AND UPI WHO RESIDES
IN VIENNA. THE UPI IS CONSIDERING ELIMINATING ITS
VIENNA BUREAU, WHICH WOULD LEAVE ONLY ONE US

JOURNALIST ACCREDITED TO THE GDR.

DAY VISITS TO EAST BERLIN CAN BE MADE
WITHOUT DIFFICULTY FOR JOURNALISTS OVERNIGHTING
IN WEST BERLIN, WHEREAS TRAVEL WITHIN THE GDR BY
JOURNALISTS IS SOMEWHAT MORE COMPLICATED IN THAT
IT INVOLVES A RELATIVELY NEW GDR ORGAN CALLED THE
HOUSE FOR JOURNALISTIC SERVICES, WHICH IS DISCUSSED
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IN SECTION F BELOW.

B. ESTIMATE NUMBER OF SUCH VISAS REFUSED.

NONE.

C. ESTIMATE NUMBER OF SUCH VISAS DELAYED MORE
THAN SIX MONTHS.

NONE.

D. NUMBER OF AMERICAN JOURNALISTS NOW
PERMANENTLY ACCREDITED IN LOCAL COUNTRY.

TWO.

E. NUMBER OF AMERICAN JOURNALISTS
EXPELLED SINCE HELSINKI.

NONE.

F. HOST GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE SINCE HELSINKI
REGARDING ACCESS TO LOCAL SOURCES, FREEDOM OF
MOVEMENT, FREEDOM TO IMPORT TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT,
FREEDOM TO IMPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (E.G. FILM
CREWS), AND FREEDOM TO COMMUNICATE WITH PARENT
ORGANIZATION.

WHILE THERE ARE NO TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ON
AMERICAN JOURNALISTS FOR MOVEMENT WITHIN THE GDR,
PROHIBITIVE DEMANDS BY THE HOUSE FOR JOURNALISTIC
SERVICES, THE CONTROLLING ORGAN, DISCOURAGE
INCREASED COVERAGE OF EVENTS. THE HOUSE FOR
JOURNALISTIC SERVICES EXERCISES VIRTUALLY TOTAL
CONTROL OVER THE ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN JOURNALISTS
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WHO WISH TO TRAVEL IN THE GDR. ALL JOURNALISTS

ARE REQUIRED TO HIRE A CAR, DRIVER AND ESCORT-
INTERPRETER, EVEN THOUGH MOST SPEAK ADEQUATE,
FREQUENTLY FLUENT, GERMAN. THE COSTS AVERAGE
\$75 PER DAY, BUT CAN FOR NO UNDERSTANDABLE REASON
BE DOUBLED.

AMERICAN JOURNALISTS CAN AND DO IMPORT
TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT AND CAMERAMEN.

THE PROXIMITY OF WEST BERLIN
SIMPLIFIES TRANSMISSION PROBLEMS FOR AMERICAN
JOURNALISTS WHO, EVEN WHILE IN THE GDR, RETAIN THEIR
STORIES FOR THE FEW DAYS THEY ARE TRAVELLING. AT
THE SAME TIME, TELEX SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO THEM,
AND DURING THE LEIPZIG FAIR WERE USED BY SEVERAL
JOURNALISTS.

G. NUMBER OF US VISAS GRANTED TO HOST
GOVERNMENT JOURNALISTS (A) FOR PERMANENT ACCREDITATION
AND (B) FOR SHORTER VISITS IN PERIOD NOVEMBER 1, 1977 -
APRIL 1, 1978.

(A) PERMANENT ACCREDITATION - 2.

(B) SHORTER VISITS - 2.

H. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SUCH VISAS REFUSED.

(A) PERMANENT ACCREDITATION - 2.

(B) SHORTER VISITS - 2.

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R 141419Z APR 78
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7155
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REFUSED UNDER 212 A (28) INA. WAIVERS WERE SOUGHT
AND OBTAINED.)

I. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SUCH VISAS DELAYED
MORE THAN SIX MONTHS.

NONE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, TREATY COMPLIANCE, MONITORING, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS, SEMIANNUAL REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BERLIN02579
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780162-0461
Format: TEL
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780456/aaaabvgi.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 19
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 84043, 77 BERLIN 8248
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2966043
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MONITORING OF WARSAW PACT IMPLEMENTATION: GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
TAGS: MARR, GC, CSCE, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a1a801b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014